

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION TEHRAN, WARSAW INFO MOSCOW, BUDAPEST,
BUCHAREST, VIENNA, PRAGUE, BELGRADE SEPTEMBER 27, 1973 FROM
SECSTATE WASHDC IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

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FOR DENT FROM TABOR

E.M 11652: N/A

SUBJ: HOUSE COMMITTEE ACTION ON MFN FOR COMMUNIST
COUNTRIES

1. ON SEPTEMBER 26, WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE APPROVED
UNANIMOUSLY VANIK (D.OHIO) AMENDMENT AFTER COMPLICATED
PARLIAMENTARY MANEUVERING WHICH RESULTED IN DELETION OF
SECTION OF ORIGINAL AMENDMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE DENIED
CREDITS OR CREDIT GUARANTEES TO NONMARKET COUNTRIES
THAT DENY ITS CITIZENS RIGHT OR OPPORTUNITY TO EMIGRATE.
VANIK AMENDMENT AS IT NOW STANDS WOULD DENY THE PRESIDENT
AUTHORITY TO GRANT MFN STATUS TO ANY NONMARKET ECONOMY
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(READ SOVIET UNION OR ANY OTHER COMMUNIST COUNTRY) UNTIL

HE DETERMINES THAT THE COUNTRY INVOLVED DOES NOT RESTRICT EMIGRATION. POLAND AND YUGOSLAVIA WERE EXEMPTED BY AN AMENDMENT SEPTEMBER 27 THAT VANIK AMENDMENT WOULD NOT APPLY TO COUNTRIES RECEIVING MFN TREATMENT AS OF DATE BILL ENACTED.

2. AMENDMENT INCLUDES LANGUAGE REQUIRING INITIAL AND SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS BY THE PRESIDENT INDICATING THAT COUNTRIES GRANTED MFN TREATMENT ARE NOT IN VIOLATION OF VANIK AMENDMENT PROSCRIPTIONS ON EMIGRATION.

3. COMMITTEE ALSO ADOPTED CORMAN AMENDMENT SEPTEMBER 27 SUBJECTING PRESIDENT'S DETERMINATIONS TO EXTEND MFN TO ANY NONMARKET ECONOMY COUNTRY TO A VETO BY EITHER HOUSE OF CONGRESS BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT.

4. VANIK INTENDS TO FIGHT TO HAVE THE CREDIT PROVISION RE-INSTATED ON THE FLOOR AND WILL SEEK OPEN RULE ON THIS TITLE. IF HE SUCCEEDS THE ADMINISTRATION WILL HAVE CHANCE TO HAVE TITLE DELETED ON FLOOR.

5. REGARDLESS OF EVENTUAL OUTCOME IN HOUSE, JACKSON AMENDMENT, WHICH STILL CONTAINS CREDIT RESTRICTION PROVISION, REMAINS TO BE FACED IN SENATE. SENATOR JACKSON (D.WASH) HAS STRONG SUPPORT IN SENATE AND RIBICOFF (D.CONN) HAS A RESPECTED VOICE IN SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE WHICH WILL CONSIDER TRADE BILL.

6. AMBASSADOR PEARCE WAS ASKED WHETHER PRESIDENT WOULD VETO THE TRADE BILL WITH THE ADOPTED VANIK AMENDMENT. HE REPLIED THAT HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION. ULLMAN (D.ORE) AND OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS QUOTED IN PRESS AS SPECULATING THAT PRESIDENT WOULD VETO IN THAT EVENT. KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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